

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 02546 01 OF 02 231408Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
SSM-03 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /097 W
-----107882 231421Z /45

O 231348Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4602
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 CAIRO 02546

JERUSALEM FOR USDEL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EG IS US XF PEPR
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 02546 01 OF 02 231408Z

SUBJECT: EGYPT EXAMINES SITUATION, WILL PRESS ITS
- CASE IN U.S.

SUMMARY. SADAT EXAMINING STATE OF PLAY AND LATEST U.S.
PROPOSALS. GOE WILL LAUNCH MAJOR DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE
WHICH INCLUDES SAYYID MARI TRIP TO U.S. FOR TALKS WITH
CARTER AND CONGRESS. ISRAEL REPORTED UNHAPPY WITH

SADAT'S SPEECH; VANCE RELIEVED IT LEFT DOOR OPEN. PRESS SAYS U.S. EXPECTS RESUMPTION OF MILITARY COMMITTEE IN 7 TO 10 DAYS. PAPERS CLAIM WIDE INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR EGYPTIAN VIEWS. EDITORIALS CONTINUE TO SCOLD ISRAEL. ACRIMONY IN PRESS REFLECTS FRUSTRATION, DISAPPOINTMENT AND DOUBT THAT PSYCHOLOGICAL BARRIERS HAVE IN FACT BEEN SHATTERED. UNIVERSAL QUESTION IS WHERE SADAT AND PEACE PROCESS GO FROM HERE. END SUMMARY.

1 SADAT STUDIES SITUATION. ACCORDING PRESS JANUARY 23, SADAT STUDYING EVALUATION OF SITUATION PREPARED FOR HIM BY FONMIN KAMEL, DEPUTY FONMIN BUTROS-GHALI AND AMBASSADOR ABDEL MEGUID. REPORT INCLUDES "COMPLETE VIZUALIZATION" OF FUTURE POLITICAL STEPS AND CONSIDERS AMERICAN PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO SADAT BY VANCE "SO THAT DOOR MAY BE LEFT OPEN FOR RESUMPTION OF DIALOGUE."

2. NEW DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE. GOE HAS ANNOUNCED IT WILL SOON DISPATCH HIGH-POWERED DELEGATIONS AROUND WORLD TO EXPLAIN ITS VIEWS. PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SPEAKER SAYYID MAR'I, ACCCOMPANIED BY GAMAL EL OTEIFI AND LAILA TAKLA OF FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, BUTROS-GHALI AND ABDEL MEGUID, WILL VISIT U.S. FOR TALKS WITH PRESIDENT CARTER AND CONGRESS. VP MUBARAK WILL HEAD DELEGATION TO ARAB AND AFRICAN CAPITALS WHILE FONMIN KAMEL TAKES ON EUROPE-ANS. CAMPAIGN BECAME NECESSARY "AFTER IT BECAME CLEAR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 CAIRO 02546 01 OF 02 231408Z

THAT ISRAEL WANTS LAND AND NOT PEACE."

3. ISRAELI AND U.S. REACTION. REPORTS ANNOUNCE PROMINENTLY BEGIN ACCUSING EGYPT OF "HARSH AND HUMILATING CAMPAIGN AGAINST ISRAEL" IN WAKE OF WHICH ISRAELI CABINET HAS POSTPONED WEIZMAN VISIT. NEVERTHELESS, NOTES CABINET WILL RECONSIDER WEIZMAN PARTICIPATION IN MILITARY COMMITTEE "IN NEAR FUTURE" AND HAS LEFT "NUMBER OF OFFICERS" IN CAIRO TO CONTINUE CONTACTS. VANCE, ON OTHER HAND, SAID TO HAVE EXPRESSED RELIEF THAT SADAT LEFT DOOR OPEN TO CONTINUED DIALOGUE. VANCE QUOTED THAT U.S. WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY ACTIVE ROLE IN PEACE PROCESS AND "SENIOR U.S. SOURCE" SAID VANCE EXPECTS EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI DIALOGUE RESUME THROUGH MILITARY COMMITTEE IN 7 TO 10 DAYS. DESPITE POSITIVE GLOSS ON U.S. IN REPORTS, COMMENTARY BEGINNING TO ECHO PRIVATELY EXPRESSED EXASPERATION WITH U.S. (SEPTEL).

4. INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT. EVANS AND NOVAK ARTICLE CRITICAL OF BEGIN EXTENSIVELY QUOTED. SENATOR JAVITS "EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER INTERRUPTION OF TALKS", PRESS CLAIMS, AND CONSIDERS SADAT INITIATIVE HISTORIC EVENT

WHICH SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO COLLAPSE. CONGRESSMAN ZABLOCKI "CONFIDED" TO ISRAELI NEWSMAN IN JERUSALEM THAT ISRAEL HAS NOT YET RESPONDED TO SADAT.

5. HELPFUL ARAB RUMBLINGS. AHRAM QUOTES KING HUSSEIN ON FRONT PAGE THAT HE READY TO JOIN MIDDLE EAST TALKS IF AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLES REACHED. PLO REP IN PARIS EZZEDINE QALAQ QUOTED BY AKHBAR THAT PLO AGREES ENGAGE IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH PROVIDING THESE CONTACTS "PUBLIC AND FRUITFUL".

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 02546 02 OF 02 231412Z

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6. EDITORIALS ROUGH ON ISRAEL. AHRAM DESCRIBED ISRAELI
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 02546 02 OF 02 231412Z

CABINET STATEMENT AS "SET OF FALLACIES CONFIRMING ISRAELI
CONTINUATION OF DEVIOUS POLICY WHICH AIMS AT FALSIFYING
FACTS." ACCUSED ISRAEL OF ERRECTING STRAW MAN OF
EGYPTIAN ANTI-SEMITISM. HAMDI GAMAL WROTE THAT BEGIN
AND ISRAELI LEADERSHIP, AS OPPOSED ISRAELI PUBLIC, DOING
THEIR BEST TO STALL SADAT PEACE INITIATIVE. AKHBAR
ARGUED SADAT HAS LEFT DOOR OPEN AND ISRAEL MUST NOW
CHOOSE BETWEEN PEACE AND ITS CONTINUED "ARROGANT OCCUPA-
TION OF ARAB TERRITORIES."

7. INCREASING ACRIMONY IN PRESS REVEALS PREVAILING
EGYPTIAN FRUSTRATION, DISAPPOINTMENT AND RESENTMENT
WITH ISRAEL. MANY OBSERVERS HAVE CONCLUDED PSYCHOLOGICAL
BARRIERS STILL EXIST. BEGIN IS CONSIDERED "DECEPTIVE
AND INSINCERE", U.S. OBTUSE AND DERELICT IN ITS
RESPONSIBILITY (SEPTEL). QUESTION UNIVERSALLY ASKED IS
WHERE PEACE PROCESS GOES FROM HERE. SOME THINK SADAT
MAY ATTEMPT REDIRECT HIS EFFORTS TO MULTILATERAL FORUM
A LA GENEVA, WHILE OTHERS OPINE HIS GOAL MAY BE TO
PERSUADE U.S. TO INFLUENCE ISRAEL TO NEGOTIATE IN GOOD
FAITH. HOWEVER, THERE IS LITTLE TO GO ON IN WAKE OF
SADAT'S JANUARY 21 SPEECH WHICH AT BEST ONLY LEFT THE
DOOR TO PEACE AJAR. EILTS

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PEPR, MPOL, EG, IS, US, XF, (SADAT, ANWAR), (BEGIN, MENAHEM)
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Type: TE
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